

REMARKS

Corrected formal drawings including amended FIGS. 5-8 have been filed to correct the objections raised by the Examiner.

The Specification has been amended to correct minor clerical errors and to conform to the amended Drawings.

No new matter has been added.

The allowability of claims 16-19, 22-27, 31 and 36-38 is noted with thanks. However, Applicants believe that all of the claims are allowable for the reasons adduced below.

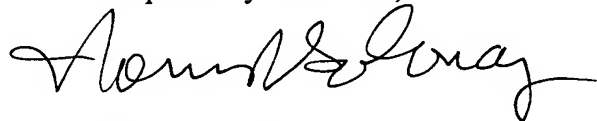
The rejection of claims 11-15, 20, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by McCormick (U.S. Pat. No. 3,674,396) is in error. Independent claims 11 and 30, as amended, require a cassette comprising a top portion having a perforated bottom wall, and a bottom portion having a side wall removable along a frangible tear line. McCormick does not teach this. More particularly, while McCormick's apparatus may comprise a top portion having a perforated bottom wall 32, there is no bottom portion having a side wall removable along a frangible tear line as required by Applicants' amended claims 11, 20 and 30. Stated another way, Applicants' claims require two distinct elements, a top portion having a perforated bottom wall, and a bottom portion having a side wall removable along a frangible tear line. McCormick teaches only one of these elements. Thus, none of Applicants' claims can be said to be anticipated, or for that matter obvious from McCormick.

New claims 39-61 are based on claims 16-19, 22-27, 31 and 36-38, and also are believed allowable.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

A credit card authorization Form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$672.00 in payment of the added claims fees (three independent claims (\$258.00) and 23 dependent claims \$414.00)) accompanies this Amendment. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 6, 2004, at Tucson, Arizona.

By



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FIG. 6

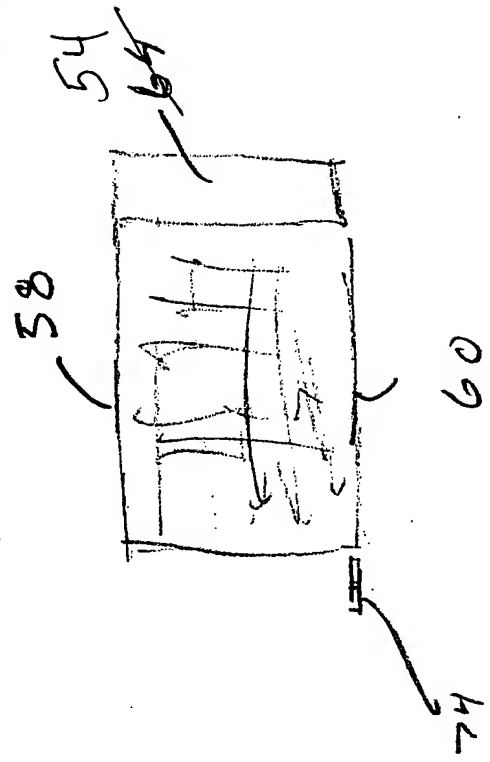


FIG. 5

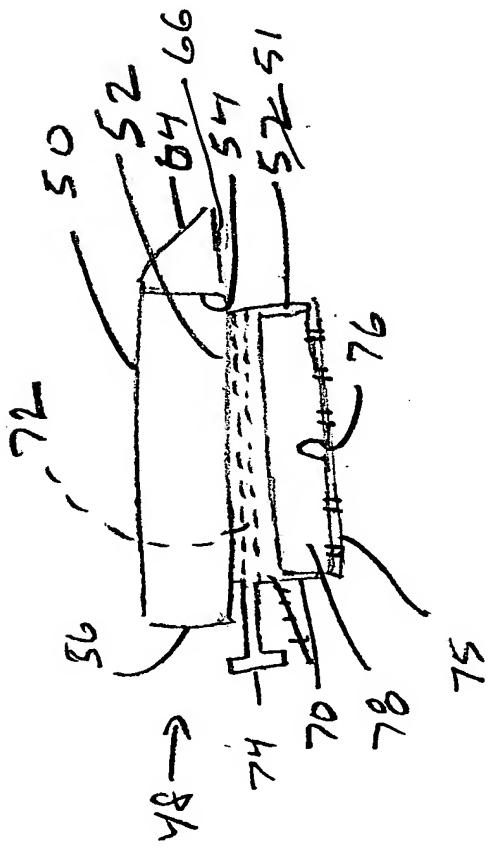


FIG. 8

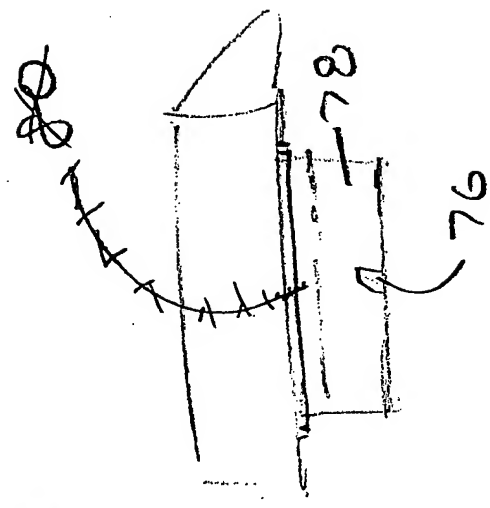


FIG. 7

